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Varu that the foot-paths from Nandyalampet to Jangammaraju Palli and from Manney Palli to Kandimallayya Palli may be converted to public metal roads;

(b) whether the Engineer of the District Board, Cuddapah, sent any report supporting this request; and

(c) what orders the Government passed thereon?

A.—(a) No such petition has been received by Government.

(b) & (c) Do not arise.

Medical

Rewards to Assistant and Sub-Assistant Surgeons in the Agency tracts.

* 382 Q.—Sriman M. G. Patnaik Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many Assistant Surgeons and Sub-Assistant Surgeons now serving in the Agency tracts of Ganjam and Vizagapatam districts are Oriyas or persons who have learnt Oriya and received rewards from Government;

(b) how the knowledge of Oriya on the part of non-Oriya Sub-Assistant Surgeons is tested; and

(c) what the reward offered is?

A.—(a) There are no Oriya Assistant or Sub-Assistant Surgeons in the Agency tracts at present. There are two non-Oriya Sub-Assistant Surgeons who have passed the colloquial examination in Oriya and received rewards.

(b) Candidates for the colloquial examination in Oriya are required to show ability to express themselves clearly and to understand readily what is said to them on some topic connected with the duties they have to perform, so as to afford proof that they are competent to conduct such duties without the aid of an interpreter.

(c) Rs. 250.

Staff employed in the office of the Surgeon-General.

* 383 Q.—Rao Sahib B. Venkataramayya: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to lay on the table of the House a statement showing the staff employed in the office of the Surgeon-General and also state the number of men drafted from Andhra Desa and from other linguistic areas?

A.—A statement[a] furnishing the information is laid on the table of the House.

Motor Vehicles Taxation

Representation regarding the burden of provincial taxation and licence fees on buses and lorries.

* 384 Q.—Mr. A. B. Shetty: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether any representations have been made to Government regarding the burden of provincial taxation and excessive licence fees charged by certain local bodies on buses and lorries; and

[a] Printed as Appendix III on page 332 infra.

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(b) whether it is a fact that many buses and lorries have been withdrawn from the road as a result of the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The Government have no information.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government propose to reduce the rates of provincial taxation? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" There is no such intention at present."

Mr. W. M. BROWNING:—" May I know, Sir, in view of the answer to clause (b), whether the Government are aware that over 700 buses have been withdrawn from the road since the 1st May of this year, in eighteen districts alone? "

Mr. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—" Is the Government aware, Sir, that hon. Member for the information. At the same time I may inform him that the Government is collecting information on this point."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" May I know whether the Government propose to take any action to prevent local bodies from levying excessive licence fees? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" I do not admit that the licence fees are excessive. At the same time I may say that we are considering the question."

Mr. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—" Is the Government aware, Sir, that the licence fees are not to be made a source of revenue? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" It is a matter of opinion."

Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—" Will the hon. Minister be pleased to call for information as to how many buses and lorries have been withdrawn from the road in the Presidency? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" I have already answered that question that the Government have no information."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" Is the Government aware that a number of private cars also have been withdrawn from the road? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" I thank the hon. Member for the information."

Production of registration certificate before the licensing authorities under the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1931.

* 385 *Q.*—Mr. F. E. JAMES: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether he is aware that the licensing authorities under the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1931, demand the production of the Registration certificate in the case of each payment of the motor vehicle tax;

(b) the necessity for the production of this certificate at each payment;